Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1.   (Currently Amended) A method of transmitting requests to a target device, comprising:

(a)   establishing network connections through a SCSI cable between a sewer and a target device, and between the server and a workstation;

(ab)   establishing a direct TCP/IP connection between athe workstation making up part a computer system and a target device on a network;

(bc)   encoding a SCSI request with a tag identifying the request as a SCSI request, and structuring the request with a request IP/ID at the workstation;

(ed)   sending the tagged SCSI request to the target device directly from the workstation through the TCP/IP connection;

(de)   returning the request IP/ID of the SCSI request from the target device directly to the workstation of the computer system through the TCP/IP connection.

2.   (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein said encoding step (b) further comprises structuring and encoding the field of the SCSI request which is direct from the workstation in a manner substantially the same as a direct SCSI request from a host system making up part of the computer system, to a target device, with said structuring and encoding being done using CTLD wherein the SCSI request is prefixed with a CTLD header that defines the request type and length.

3.   (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said encoding step (b) further comprises including a data buffer containing data to allow the target device to read the data buffer using the established TCP/IP connection.

4.   (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said transmission step (c) further comprises sending the data buffer in conjunction with the SCSI request in a manner substantially different from direct SCSI requests from a host system to a target device, and which allows the host

system to supply the data buffer without an explicit request from the target system, whereby the target system is allowed to receive the data immediately following the request without having to make an explicit request to obtain the data buffer.

5. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said step (d) further comprises returning a data buffer generated by the target device to the workstation using the established TCP/IP connection.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1, wherein said target device is a storage system.

7. (Cancelled)

8. (Original) The method of claim 2, wherein said target device is a storage system.

9. (Original) The method of claim 8 wherein said computer system comprises a server connected to the storage system through SCSI cable, a workstation connected to the server, and further comprising the workstation directly connected to the storage system for establishing the TCP/IP connection with the storage system.

10. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising denying a connection from the workstation to the target device if a request from the workstation does not include a recognized IP/ID.

11. (Original) The method of claim 7, further comprising denying a connection from the computer system to the target device if the time for reading a completed message exceeds a predetermined amount of time.

12. (Original) The method of claim 7, wherein said direct connection is established on a network separate from a SCSI cable connection between the host system and the target device.

13.   (Currently Amended) A system for directly transmitting requests to a target device connected to a computer system, comprising:

(a)   a computer system including a server connected to a target device through a SCSI cable and to workstation through a SCSI cable;

(ab)   ~~a computer system including a~~the workstation ~~which is connectable~~ also being connected directly through a TCP/IP connection to a target device;

(bc)   the computer system being configured for encoding a SCSI request with a tag identifying the request as a SCSI request, and for structuring the request with an IP/ID directly from the workstation to the target device through the TCP/IP connection;

(ed)   an instruction module in the computer system and in the workstation for sending the tagged SCSI request to a target device directly from the workstation through ~~a~~ the TCP/IP connection to the target device when a host server of the computer system is also connected through the ~~networks~~ SCSI cable to the target device; and

(de)   the target device being programmed to accept the SCSI request and for returning the request IP/ID of the SCSI request and a reply directly to the workstation of the computer system, when connected thereto, through the TCP/IP connection.

14.   (Currently Amended) The system of claim 13, wherein the computer system is further configured for structuring and encoding the field of the SCSI request which is direct from the workstation in a manner substantially the same as a direct SCSI request from a host system making up part of the computer system through a network to a target device and for said structuring and encoding being done using CTLD wherein the SCSI request is prefixed with a CTLD header the request type and length.

15.   (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the computer system is further configured for, as part of the encoding, creating a buffer containing data to allow the target device to read the data buffer.

16.   (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein the target device is configured for generating and returning a data buffer to the computer system in response to a request received from the computer system.

17.   (Original) The system of claim 13, wherein said target device is a storage system.

18.   (Cancelled)

~~18~~19.   (Original) The system of claim 14, wherein said target device is a storage system.

20. (Original) The system of claim 19, wherein said computer system comprises a server connected to the storage system through SCSI cable, a workstation connected to the server, and further comprising the workstation directly connected to the storage system for establishing a TCP/IP connection with the storage system.

~~19~~21.   (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the target device is configured for denying a connection from the workstation thereto if a request from the workstation does not include a recognized IP/ID.

~~20~~22.   (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the target device is configured for denying a connection from the workstation to the target device if the time for reading a completed message exceeds a predetermined amount of time.

~~21~~23.   (Original) The system of claim 18, further comprising a network for establishing the TCP/IP connection between the host system and target device.

~~22~~24. (Original) The system of claim 18, wherein the target device is configured for denying a connection from the workstation to the target device if the time for reading a completed message exceeds a predetermined amount of time.

~~23~~25. (Original) The system of claim 18, further comprising a network for establishing the TCP/IP connection between the host system and target device.

~~24~~26. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 1, wherein said computer system comprises a host and a workstation connected directly thereto, each containing software for cooperation with each other and further comprising operating said software to construct SCSI requests to send over a direct TCP/IP connection between the workstation and target device.

~~25~~27. (Previously Presented) The system of claim 13, wherein said computer system comprises a host and a workstation connected directly thereto, each containing software for cooperation with each other and further comprising operating said software to construct SCSI requests to send over a direct TCP/IP connection between the workstation and target device.